ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5

10

15

20

25

A projectile launcher is provided comprising a barrel wherein a projectile is stored prior to launch and a mechanism for launching said projectile, said mechanism being coupled with a user-operated trigger mechanism for initiating the launch of the projectile. Also coupled with the trigger mechanism is a mechanism for generating an audiovisual stimulus, whereby said stimulus is generated simultaneously upon the launch or independently of the launch of the projectile such that the stimulus serves to surprise, disorient, or otherwise attract the attention of the intended target. In the preferred embodiment, an air-powered mechanism is utilized for launching the projectile, said air-powered mechanism including a user-operated pump that serves to compress air in a pressurizable tank, which compressed air is then released so as to propel the projectile when the user pulls the trigger. In this embodiment, a second barrel is disposed directly above the barrel in which the projectiles are stored, said second barrel housing a strobe or other bright light, which light is also activated when the user pulls the trigger such that the light flashes simultaneously upon the launch of the projectile. A variety of projectiles are contemplated, including discs, arrows, darts and the like, and a variety of different mechanisms for propelling the projectiles are likewise contemplated, including spring means, magnetic means, elastic means, and the like.